



A Newsletter of Newport United Methodist Church

February, 2018

### *Pastor's Page*

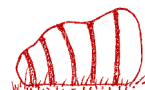
When I discovered the YA (Young Adult) book *A Wrinkle in Time*, I was not YA (which really means aimed at teenagers) but a young adult. From that first read, it has been a favorite so I look forward to seeing the latest movie based on it that will be opening in a theaters in a few days.

Over her lifetime Madeleine L'Engle wrote dozens of books - adult and juvenile fiction (the most famous, of course, is *A Wrinkle in Time*), essays on faith and art, poetry, and her own memoirs. The wide spectrum of her writing was matched by the wide interest from the faith community in her work - she was equally well received in evangelical churches and colleges as well as in her home Episcopal denomination.

Equally wide and varied was and is the attempt to understand her life. Is it the warm and loving family portrayed in her memoirs (a picture that very family calls fiction), the scurrilous portraits written by her detractors, or something else?

One Christmas I received a recently published series of interviews with dozens of people who knew her called *Listening for Madeleine*. As I enjoyed the readings, I found that something else began to emerge - not the self centered tyrant of the tabloids nor the all knowing center of smooth family and community life of her memoirs. Perhaps the only consistent things in any of the pictures is acknowledgment of her willingness to talk about her faith and acknowledgment of her talent. She believed in the importance of living a life rooted in God and in serving her talent for storytelling.

*(See the next page!)*



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### *Pastor's Page continued-*

None of us (probably) will be as famous as Madeleine L'Engle but we are all faced with the search for consistent self understanding and lives of faith. Rereading the essays brings me to personal questions. When do I fictionalize what is going on to make it fit who I want to be rather than who I am? Am I listening for others to better understand how to more become who I want to be? What am I doing to grow in the faith, to better understand how to use the talents God has given me?

These are good Lenten questions as we continue to explore our covenant with God and our actions in the world. Thank you Madeleine L'Engle for telling wonderful stories, especially ones that can push us more in out self understanding and our exploration of the divine.

*Linda*



***FLOCK WATCHER asks that you keep these people in your prayers:***

the family of **Ethel's** sister-in-law **Eileen** who passed away this past month; the family of **John and Phyllis'** friend **Marcia** who passed away late last month; two of **Doug's** brothers need our prayers: **Gary** for continued recovery from cancer surgery, and **Ted** for diagnosis and treatment of cancer; who is dealing with aggressive cancer; **people and families dealing with mental illness; victims of the school shootings in Kentucky and Florida; everyone** who faces **financial crisis** for various reasons.

*We share our joys too:* **Art** is back with us after a bout with pneumonia! **Sherry and Tracy's nephew Mitchell** is hired as a police officer in Brooklyn Center; **Ethel's** husband **Dave** is home from transitional care; **Bob's** friend **Jack** is doing very well after surgery for cancer; **Park High's one act play** went to the state contest and received a star.

*If you have lifted someone up for prayer, please update us in the church office as their conditions change, as a concern or joy!*

The **LEADERSHIP TEAM** meets on Monday, March **5th** at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. **Martha Circle** meets in the Fireside Room on Monday, **March 5th** at 9:30 a.m.

The **Red Rockers** will hold their luncheon on *Thursday, March 15 at NOON* at the North Pole Restaurant in Newport Center. If you are attending please contact Ruth Pommerening at 459 1970.

...*Angel Closet has moved to Thursdays! The last regular opening was on January 4 but you can call the church office with individual needs in the meantime.* We will do our best to take care of families needing school supplies. Consult the list of supplies furnished by the school and grade your child will be attending. Church office phone: 459 2747.

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January, 2018 Financial Report

**FUND BALANCES REPORT**

The January 31, 2017 checkbook balance was **\$15,459.22.**

**MONTHLY BUDGET ENVELOPE GIVING**

January envelope and loose plate giving was **\$6,255.00.**

**TOTAL INCOME FOR REPORT PERIOD**

January income from all sources was **\$7,979.00.**

**TOTAL EXPENSES FOR REPORT PERIOD**

January expenses were **\$7,437.57.**

**SUMMARY**

**Income in relation to expenses for January, 2018 was \$541.43.**

**The waste and recycling enclosure is ready for use and will start when the cold weather abates and training is completed. The cost of the waste/recycling enclosure will be totally covered by the Waste Wise grant which has been approved.**

Please mention any projects you feel need doing or any concerns you have about repairs to Mike in written form. He will pass them on to the appropriate person.

**Everyone is encouraged to maintain good stewardship.**

Any suggestions for improving this financial report will be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

*John Brenneman*

**2018** so far– by the numbers:

**4** courses served at the UMW Tea brought **30** guests and **\$560** for UMW ministries;

**12** local volunteers to Texas with Be the Tool;

**17** schoolchildren served by Angel Closet in January;

**47** in church on March 4;

**96** years for Bobbie on February 18;

**100** years for Garel on January 21...

*...stay tuned as the coming months bring new statistics!*



Chifferi al Gorgonzola  
(Elbows Pasta with Gorgonzola Sauce)

Ingredients:

- ¾ to 1 lb. chifferi pasta (elbow macaroni) 1 medium onion
- ½ lb. sweet gorgonzola cheese (or blue cheese) 1 bunch of fresh dill
- 1 ½ to 2 cups light cream Whole black peppercorns for grinding
- 4 medium carrots

Procedure:

- (1) Boil the chefferi just to *al dente* (“to the tooth,” i.e., firm) in salted water, together with a tablespoonful of oil, so they won’t stick together; drain and keep them warm.
- (2) Scrape the carrots, crosscut them into two-inch sections, and reduce them lengthwise to thin sticks; boil them in salted water about five minutes.
- (3) Mince the onion fine and sauté it in a little oil, using a heavy saucepan, until the mince are just transparent. *And quickly to Page 7!*

# MARCH 2018



## *Birthdays*

- 1 – Sherry Elg
- 8-- Ruth Pommerening
- 15 – Julia Wynne
- 26 – Armin Kilber
- 27 – Barb Larson
- 31 – Johanna Cotton



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>Room Use Designations</b> C – Classroom FH – Fellowship Hall FR – Fireside Room N – Nursery S – Sanctuary	<b>NEWPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> <b>1596 ELEVENTH AVENUE (AT GLEN ROAD)</b> <b>NEWPORT, MINNESOTA 55055-1649</b> <b>JESUS CHRIST, HEAD; THE CONGREGATION, MINISTERS;</b> <b>REV. LINDA GESLING, PASTOR</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  1:30 pm United Church of God
<b>4</b>  <i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i> <b>9:30 am Worship Service</b>	<b>5</b>  <b>9:30am Martha Circle</b> <b>6:30 pm Leadership Team</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  <b>6:30 pm Voice Choir S</b> <b>7:30 pm Handbell Choir FH</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  1:30 pm United Church of God
<b>11</b>  <i>4th Sunday in Lent</i> <b>9:30 am Worship Service</b>	<b>12</b>  <b>6:00-8:00 pm KNITTING GROUP @ CG Library</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  <b>6:30 pm Voice Choir S</b> <b>7:30 pm Handbell Choir FH</b>	<b>15</b>  <b>Noon RED ROCKERS EVENT</b> <b>North Pole Restaurant in Newport</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  1:30 pm United Church of God
<b>18</b>  <i>5th Sunday in Lent</i> <b>9:30 am Worship Service</b>	<b>19</b>  <b>2:00 pm Key articles due</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  <b>6:30 pm Voice Choir S</b> <b>7:30 pm Handbell Choir FH</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  <b>10:00 am United Church of God</b> <b>2:00 pm Conversations with Dakota People</b>
<b>25</b>  <i>Palm Sunday</i> <b>9:30 am Worship Service</b>	<b>26</b>  <b>6:00-8:00 pm KNITTING GROUP @ Newport UMC</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  <b>6:30 pm Voice Choir S</b> <b>7:30 pm Handbell Choir FH</b>	<b>29</b>  <b>7:00 pm Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  1:30 pm United Church of God

...completing our *Chifferi* from Page 4...

(4) Add about ¾ of the cream and combine with the onions and the cheese crumbled (or diced, if it isn't dry enough to crumble) into the mixture and stir until it is melted.

(5) Fold in the chifferi and carrots and cook for one minute, stirring gently. Add the rest of the cream if it is needed. Adjust the seasoning.

(6) Spoon portions of the mixture on salad plates and sprinkle them with fresh dill crumbled in the hands and with a little freshly ground black pepper.

SERVE each portion with an accompanying plate of a grilled (or breaded and baked) boneless pork chop and a tossed salad. A bottle of ale or a robust beer goes well with any cheese dish, as does cider or perry, or cold milk—but not coffee or tea, which does not taste good with it, and is best reserved until afterwards, with dessert.

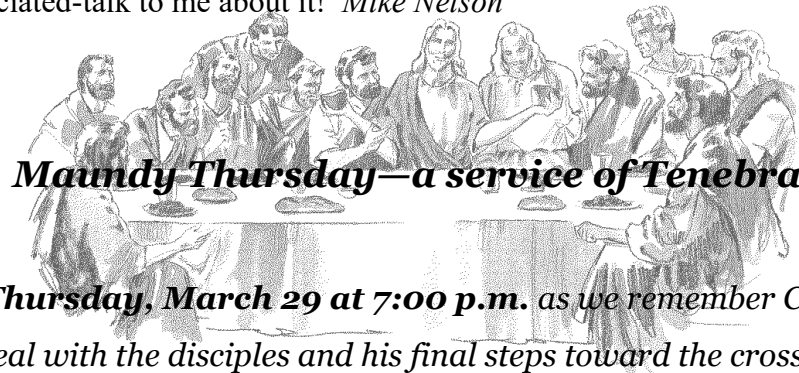
(As served at Pieroni's Restaurant and Sea Grill in the Hotel Pieroni, 07 – 08 Park Square, Boston, in the 1950s. This restaurant was a huge place with a two-story-high ceiling, and the room seated perhaps 250 people. It was surrounded by a mezzanine also furnished with dining tables. Of classical design and décor, the restaurant was originally called "The Georgian" at about the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.)

Paul H. S. Gaboriault / Rheinlander, Wisconsin / 17 Feb 2005



### *Volunteers needed!*

Part of my job description as secretary is to respond to security system calls at any time. I do need to go out of town occasionally, and it would be good for someone to be available to cover this duty when I'm not around. You can volunteer on a 'when asked' basis or over a certain time period. Any commitment you can offer would be greatly appreciated—talk to me about it! *Mike Nelson*



### ***Maundy Thursday—a service of Tenebrae***

Join us on **Thursday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m.** as we remember Christ's last meal with the disciples and his final steps toward the cross.

## **-a Retreat in the City-**

Founded 1861 — Celebrating 156 Years of Ministry

Newport United Methodist Church  
1596 Eleventh Avenue (*at Glen Road*)  
Newport, MN 55055-1649

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



*The Key* is a monthly publication of Newport United Methodist Church, 1596 Eleventh Avenue, Newport, Minnesota. News items to run the following month are due in the Church Office by the 3rd Monday of the current month.



*A warm welcome  
awaits you . . .*



EACH SUNDAY:

Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School is available during worship. Adult Study follows at 10:45.

WEDNESDAYS:

Voice Choir at 6:30 p.m. - Handbell Choir At 7:30 p.m.

Voice and Handbell Choirs  
Adult Bible Study  
United Methodist Women  
Martha Circle  
Fellowship Dinner Groups  
Pastoral Care  
Pastor: Rev. Linda J. Gesling  
Cell Phone: 651-226-2738  
**Church Telephone: (651) 459-2747**  
**Fax: (651) 769-1216**  
Church e-mail: [newportumc@gmail.com](mailto:newportumc@gmail.com)  
Web address: [www.newportumc.org](http://www.newportumc.org)

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

*Newport United Methodist Church is people of God dedicated to following the teaching of Jesus because we want to set an example so that we and others can grow in our faith.*